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Annapolis, Maryland 21401
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March 3, 2026

The Honorable Jheanelle Wilkins
Taylor Office Building, Ways and Means Committee
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Chair Wilkins and members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

On behalf of Delta Bingo and Abner's Bingo, we write to support House Bill 1343 Internet Gaming – Authorization and Implementation with amendments. We support the adoption of internet gaming in Maryland as we believe it will help resolve Maryland's structural deficit in the forthcoming budget years after FY 2027 but we feel as though Maryland's commercial bingo halls should be included in any proposal to offer such gaming.

Bingo should be eligible for Maryland I-Gaming licenses

- Maryland Commercial bingo halls have an established track record of operating legally in the State, complying with all laws and regulations. Operators already implement age verification, self-exclusion programs, and problem gambling resources that are essential for iGaming platforms.
- Bingo halls are established community institutions that employ local residents, contribute to tax revenue, and often support charitable organizations—benefits that would extend to iGaming operations.
- Our halls have existing infrastructure and client base to operate I-gaming. They have invested in gaming technology, staff training, security systems that also would extend to i-gaming operations. Operators like Delta Bingo have experience in the i-gaming industry unlike many that would be granted licenses.
- Competitive equity with other gaming operators: If casinos or other gaming entities receive automatic qualification or preferential treatment for iGaming licenses, bingo halls should receive similar consideration given their existing gaming licenses and regulatory standing.
- Bingo operators can bring online gaming to market quickly, ensuring the State maximizes its revenue generation licensing an already vetted and trusted entity.

Bingo hall operators have made significant capital investments in Maryland's gaming industry; automatic iGaming qualification helps protect these investments and allows operators to compete in an evolving gaming marketplace.

Sincerely,
Sushant Sidh
Principal, Capitol Strategies